

Applicant has canceled claims 1-3 and has amended claim 4 to include additional features of the present invention which distinguish the invention from the cited reference. Applicant has also amended the specification to insert additional description of features which are inherently shown in the drawings. No "new matter" has been added.

The Lazarek reference pertains to a removable screen system for an automobile window. It does not pertain to a window system involving a fixed frame section and a movable window sash section as required in the present invention.

Applicant's amended claim 4, and new claims 5-9, are directed to a combination of a fixed window frame section, movable sash section, and a screen mesh which is detachably secured to the fixed frame section, wherein the sash section overlaps the fixed frame section. The system described by Lazarek for automobile use does not involve the use of a window sash section which overlaps a fixed frame section. Indeed, a swinging sash section would not only be useless in Lazarek's invention, it could interfere with the intended operation of an automobile window.

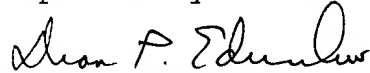
Applicant has also added method claim 10 which recites a method for attaching a screen mesh to a window of the type including a fixed frame section and a movable sash section. The Lazarek reference does not describe such method.

An additional advantage of applicant's window screen system is that the hook and loop fastener strips around the side edges of the screen mesh, between the movable sash section and the fixed frame

section, provide an additional seal between the sash section and the fixed frame section when the sash is in its closed position and compresses the fastener strips between the sash and the fixed frame section. This enhances the weather-tight performance of the closed window unit. Such feature is not shown or suggested by the cited prior art references.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant submits that the previous Section 102(b) and Section 103(a) rejections are unsound and should be withdrawn. Reconsideration and favorable action are courteously solicited. A marked-up version of claim 4 and pages 7 and 8 of the specification are attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Dean P. Edmundson
Reg. No. 25,723
P. O. Box 710
Windsor, Colorado 80550
(970) 222-0446
Attorney for Applicant

Application Serial No. 09/326,405
Dave B. Lundahl
Group Art Unit 3635

Page 7, third paragraph: Figure 2 illustrates a window having fixed frame section 15 and movable in-swinging window sash section 16 in a partially opened position. As shown, the sash section overlaps a portion of the fixed frame section. The sash section and fixed frame section also have complementary-shaped edges to allow for the interaction of operating hardware and weather strips (which for purposes of clarity are not shown). A strip of fastener material is secured to the fixed window frame section 15 in an area where the sash section overlaps a portion of the fixed frame section as shown, without intruding into the vision area when the sash is open. The mating strip 11 of fastener material on the edge of the screen mesh can be simply applied to strip 12 to secure it in place without taking up problematic amounts of space with traditional screen frames.

Page 8, first paragraph: Figure 3 illustrates another type of window in which the system of the invention may also be used having fixed frame sections 18 and 18A, and movable out-swinging window sash section 17 shown in a partially opened position. The fastener strip 12 is secured to window frame section 18A which is the crank housing portion of fixed frame section 18. The window sash portion 17 overlaps frame section 18A as shown and is able to close tightly to section 18 and 18A. The screen mesh 10 (with strip 11 on its edge) can be stretched into place and mated with strip 12 (which is in opposing relation to the sash portion 17). The window sash section 17 is moved open or closed through traditional action of the crank hardware assembly 30 without interfering with the screen mesh.

Page 8, second paragraph: Figure 4 illustrates use of the screen mesh system on another type of window frame having fixed frame section 20 and movable sash section 21 shown in a partially opened position. Strip 12 is secured to fixed window frame component 20 at an appropriate location out of view so as to mate with the strip 11

on the edge of mesh 10 without interfering with the electric motor mechanisms mounted in location 22 that operate the window sash section 21. Movable sash section overlaps the portion of the fixed frame section to which strip 12 is secured and is able to close tightly against the fixed frame section.

Claim 4 (Amended). A combination comprising:

- (a) a window frame comprising a fixed frame section and a movable sash section; wherein said movable sash section includes an edge which overlaps said fixed frame section; and wherein said fixed frame section [defining] defines an opening of given dimensions;
- (b) a screen mesh having side edges and having a size and shape [approximately equal to] approximating that of said opening[; said mesh having side edges], wherein said side edges of said screen mesh extend beyond said opening of said fixed frame section;
- (c) a first fastener strip secured to said side edges of said screen mesh;
- (d) a second fastener strip secured directly to said fixed frame section opposing said edge of said sash section [around said opening] in a manner such that said given dimensions of said [window frame] opening in said fixed frame section are not reduced;

wherein said first and second fastener strips comprise hook and loop fasteners; [and] wherein said side edges of said screen mesh are aligned with said fixed frame section around said opening; and wherein said first fastener strip is detachably secured to said second fastener strip, whereby said screen mesh covers said opening [without requiring any secondary apparatus and] without reducing said given dimensions of said [window frame] opening in said fixed frame section.